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(54) 【発明の名称】 腸定着ラクトバシラス

(57) 【要約】

インビボでヒトの腸粘膜に定着するようになる能力を有し、経口投与後投与完了後少なくとも10日間そこに残留することができるラクトバシラスの菌株を単離する方法。

該方法によって、特に、発酵された栄養組成物の形態で、バクテリア感染の予防又は治療に有用である、新規菌株エル. プランタラム (L. plantarum) 299 (D S M 6595) 及びエル. カセイ エスエスピー. ラムノサス (L. casei ssp. rhamnosus) 271 (D S M 6594) が単離された。

請求の範囲

1. インビボでヒトの腸粘膜にコロナイズ (colonize) し定着 (established) するようになる能力を有するラクトバシラスの菌株を単離する方法であって、ラクトバシラスがヒト腸粘膜から単離され、適当な栄養培地で純粋培養 (pure cultured) され、腸内でコロナイズし定着するようになる能力について選択されることを特徴とする方法。
2. コロナイズし定着するようになる該能力が、経口投与、及び投与完了後少なくとも10日で腸粘膜上への出現の確認によって、試験されることを特徴とする請求項1に記載の方法。
3. 選択が、胆汁耐性、pH耐性、オートミールの発酵能力及び香味を産生する能力の評価によって行われることを特徴とする請求項1又は2に記載の方法。
4. 請求項1から3のいずれかに従って得られることを特徴とする、インビボでヒト腸粘膜にコロナイズする能力を有するラクトバシラス菌株。
5. ラクトバシラス プランタラム (Lactobacillus plantarum) 299 DSM 6595、
ラクトバシラス カセイ エスエスビー、ラムノサス (Lactobacillus casei ssp. rhamnosus) 271
DSM 6594、
又は本質的に対応するREA-パターンを有するその変異体であることを特徴とする、請求項9に記載の使用。
9. 外科手術に関するバクテリア感染の予防又は治療のための、抗生物質に代る、請求項4に記載のラクトバシラス菌株によって発酵された栄養組成物の使用。
10. 該菌株が、
ラクトバシラス プランタラム (Lactobacillus plantarum) 299 DSM 6595、
ラクトバシラス カセイ エスエスビー、ラムノサス (Lactobacillus casei ssp. rhamnosus) 271
DSM 6594、
又は本質的に対応するREA-パターンを有するその変異体であることを特徴とする、請求項9に記載の使用。

DSM 6594、

又は本質的に対応するREA-パターンを有するその変異体であることを特徴とする、インビボでヒト腸粘膜にコロナイズする能力を有するラクトバシラス菌株。

6. 胃腸管中の感染の予防または治療のための組成物であって、請求項1から3のいずれかに従って得られた、インビボでヒトの腸粘膜にコロナイズし定着するようになる能力を有するラクトバシラスの菌株と、慣用されている担体とを組合わせて含むことを特徴とする組成物。

7. 菌株

ラクトバシラス プランタラム (Lactobacillus plantarum) 299 DSM 6595、

ラクトバシラス カセイ エスエスビー、ラムノサス (Lactobacillus casei ssp. rhamnosus) 271

DSM 6594、

又は本質的に対応するREA-パターンを有するその変異体を含有することを特徴とする、請求項6に記載の組成物。

8. ラクトバシラス菌株によって発酵された栄養溶液をベースとするオートミールであることを特徴とする、経口、小腸 (enteral) 又は直腸 (rectal) 投与のための請求項6又は7に記載の組成物。

明細書

腸定着ラクトバシラス

本発明は、経口投与後、インビボ (in vivo) で腸粘膜にコロナイズし、定着するようになる (colonize and become established) 能力を有するラクトバシラスの菌株 (strains) を単離する方法、該方法によって得られる菌株及びバクテリア感染の予防又は治療への該菌株の使用、特に、該菌株の一種によって発酵されたオートミール (oatmeal) がベースの栄養分溶液を含む組成物の形態での使用に関する。

多数の人々が、乱された腸内微生物叢 (intestinal microflora) を有している。即ち、有益な腸内バクテリアと有害な腸内バクテリアのバランスが乱されている。例えば、ストレス、胆汁酸塩の発生、ダイエット等を含むいくらかの因子が、バクテリア叢 (bacterial flora) に影響を及ぼす。しかしながら、最も重要なことは、現在の抗生剤治療は長期間正常な叢を破壊することが可能で、その結果正常な発酵過程を除去することである。発酵過程が妨げられ、有益なバクテリア数が減少すると、その結果、腸の粘膜は、潜在的に悪性のバクテリア数が急激に増大すると同時に、衰えそして機能を停止する。このようなバクテリアは、全く機能していない粘膜を貫通し、身体の器官

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に感染し、身体中の膿汁の病巣 (pus foci) を伴ういわゆる集中治療疾患 (intensive-care-disease)、更には、ひょっとすると、身体のはとんどの器官の機能破壊、器官の崩壊 (collapse of organs) に至る。腹腔内の膿瘍 (abscess) により惹起される血液中毒 (blood poisoning)、敗血症は、尚、高死亡率の腹部手術に関連する非常に一般的な外科的合併症 (surgical complication) である。このような患者は、現在、抗生物質の投与及び膿瘍が存在し得る範囲の外科的治療によって治療される。現在では、抗生物質は、手術後の感染及びそれによって起こる病気の危険を減少させるために、腸の外科手術以前に慣用的に投与されている。しかしながら、抗生物質での処置は、高価であり、更にアレルギー、正常な腸内細菌叢 (intestinal flora) の破壊、病原性のより高い細菌の異常増殖等の各種合併症の危険を伴う。

ラクトバシラス (lactobacilli) が腸の粘膜上で好ましい効果を有しているかもしれないという事は、再度持ち出された古くからのアイデアである。しかしながら、微生物が関与しているか否かに関して及び腸の生態学 (ecology) に関しては多くの不明な点がある。これに関連する別の問題としては、ラクトバシラス属の分類が完全でなく、腸の機能に好適な菌株を特定することが困難であるという問題

性化することを妨げる。最後に、ラクトバシラスは、癌腫瘍に対し成長を制限する効果を有するとの徴候があり、それはおそらく免疫防御システムのマクロファージが、ラクトバシラスの存在により活性化されるためであろう。

今日最も慣用されている食糧中に使用されているラクトバシラスの決定的な弱点は、胃及び十二指腸を通過する間に、これらの微生物の生存率 (survival) が低いことである。このことから、“アシドフィルスフィル” (acidophilusfil) と呼ばれる製品、即ち、ヒトの糞便から直接単離されたラクトバシラスアシドフィルスの菌株を用いて、ミルクを発酵させたアシドフィルスサワーミルクの開発が行なわれた。エル、アシドフィルス (*L. acidophilus*) は、胃腸管の上部をうまく通過する。しかしながら、より長時間腸内で微生物叢 (microflora) に対して効果を有するためには、ラクトバシラスが腸内で定着するようにするのが必須である。リドベック (Lidbeck) らによると (Scand J Infect Dis, 4, 531-537頁, 1987)、腸の微生物叢中のラクトバシラスの数の増加は、ラクトバシラスアシドフィルスを含む調製物の消費の後に起こり、その消費が終わると次第に減速し、その結果、供給しない場合は9日後に、細菌の量は、その元の組成物に再度もどることとなる。

がある。結局、今日一般的に受け入れられていると思われることは以下の通りである。

- ラクトバシラス属の細菌が、関係する栄養素 (foodstuff) 又は腸に関係なく、種々の方法で、病原性の細菌の定着を妨げる明白な能力を有している。
 - ラクトバシラスの或る菌株は、腸を保護したり活性化する点において、同種の他の菌株に比べて、より効果的である。
 - ラクトバシラスによって発酵された食物が、コレステロール減少効果を有することを証明されたが、これはおそらく腸内でのコレステロール産生を抑止するからであり、更にはおそらく該細菌がステロイドの産生にコレステロールを使用するからであろう。
 - 大量のラクトバシラスの消費は、腸の運動性の活性を向上させるが、この効果の原因は不明である。
 - 腸内にラクトバシラスが多く割合で存在すると、癌に対抗する。これは種々の根拠を有していると思われる。
- 第1に、或るラクトバシラスは、酵素ニトロリダクターゼ (nitritereductase) によって腸内のニトロソアミンの産生を阻害する。ニトロソアミンは発癌性である。第2にラクトバシラスは、腸内で或る種の細菌によって産生された酵素が、潜在的な発癌性物質を活

EP-A2-0199535は、ヒトの糞便から単離され、インビトロの試験で粘膜細胞に付着する事ができる、ラクトバシラスアシドフィルスATCCアクセッションNo. 53103の生物学的に純粋な培養物について記載している。しかしながら、インビボでの付着については立証されていない。

WO89/05849には、ブタの胃腸管から単離され、例えば、インビトロでブタ由来の胃腸表皮細胞への付着、酸及び胆汁に対する耐性 (tolerance) によって選択された乳酸菌が記載されている。該細菌は、ミルクの発酵に使用でき、これは、特に(i.a.)大腸菌性の下痢を予防乃至治療するために子ブタに与えられる。

今日商業的に使用されているラクトバシラスの菌株は、結局、例えばミルクのような現在の一次産物中で一応増殖できる能力について選択されたものである。もし或る菌株が、任意の好ましい影響を及ぼすならば、それが腸内で定着されるようになり、且つ、存在する微生物叢と競合することが、疑いもなく必要不可欠である。或るラクトバシラス菌株が、この競合に耐えるために必要な特性が何であるかという知見は、ほとんど知られていない。

本発明は、インビボでヒトの腸粘膜に定着乃至コロニズ (colonize) し定着 (established) するようになる能

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力を有するラクトバシラスの菌株を単離する方法であって、ラクトバシラスがヒト腸粘膜から単離され、適当な栄養培地中で純粋培養され (pure cultured)、腸内でコロナイズし確立するようになる能力について選択されることを特徴とする方法に関する。

腸内でコロナイズする該菌株の能力は、好ましくは、経口投与、及びそれに続く投与完了後少なくとも10日で腸粘膜上への出現 (occurrence) の確認によって、試験される。

単離された菌株の相補的な選択 (complementary selection) は、コロナイゼーション (colonization) の試験の前後に、各種の機能的及び技術的特性、例えば、胆汁耐性、pH耐性、要求される物質、好ましくはオートミールの発酵能力、香味 (flavour) を産生する能力、凍結乾燥に耐える能力、抗生物質耐性等の評価によって行うことができる。

胃腸管中をうまく通過するためには、選択された菌株は、pH 1.0で30分間生存し、且つ、0.1%胆汁の存在下で生育することができるのが適切である。

本発明は、また、上記記載の単離方法によって得られる、インビボでヒト腸粘膜にコロナイズする能力を有するラクトバシラス菌株にも関する。一つの理論によると、通性的

ターンである。それらのREA-パターンによる菌株の特徴付けによって、使用された単離物の同定が、確立される。これは、以前は不可能であったことである。REA-パターンが異なる密接な関係のあるラクトバシラス菌株は、腸の上皮への付着能力について相違点を示す。

本発明は、胃腸管中の感染の予防または治療のための組成物にも関し、該組成物は、本発明の方法に従って得られる、インビボでヒトの腸粘膜にコロナイズし定着する (established) ようになる能力を有するラクトバシラスの菌株を、慣用されている担体と組合わせて含む。

特に、本発明は菌株

ラクトバシラス プランタラム 299 DSM 6595
ラクトバシラス カセイ エスエスピー、ラムノサス 271
DSM 6594

のいずれかをまたは本質的に対応するREA-パターンを有するその変異体を含有する組成物に関する。

慣用されている担体としては、例えば、問題のバクテリアによって発酵された生理学的に許容される基質及び、特にスターチやミルクをベースとする種々の種類の食品 (foodstuff) が挙げられるが、また、食塩水 (saline) や水のような不活性な固体または液体の物質も挙げられる。適当な基質は、胃腸管で再吸収されず、ラクトバシラスで

にヘテロ発酵性の (facultatively heterofermentative) ラクトバシラスの菌株は、腸内での確立にとって好ましい型を構成する。

特に、本発明は、インビボでヒト腸粘膜にコロナイズする能力を有する新規なラクトバシラス菌株に関し、該菌株は、ドイツのブラウンシュウェイク (Braunschweig) の、デーエスエム (DSM) - ドイツチェ サムルング フォン ミクロオルガニズメン ウント ツェルクフルツレーン ゲーエムベーハー (Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH) に、ブダペスト条約に従って、1991年7月2日に寄託されており、それは、

ラクトバシラス プランタラム 299 DSM 6595

(*Lactobacillus plantarum*)

ラクトバシラス カセイ エスエスピー、ラムノサス 271
DSM 6594

(*Lactobacillus casei* ssp. *rhamnosus*)

である。

本発明は、また、本質的に対応するREA-パターンを有するその変異体 (variant) にも関する。REA-パターンは、以下に記載した方法に従って制限酵素で分解された、DNAのアガール上での電気泳動において形成されるパ

発酵されたときに短鎖の脂肪酸 (short fatty acids) を形成する液体または固体の繊維を含むのがよい。適当なスターチ含有基質の例としては、オート麦 (oats)、小麦 (wheat) のような穀類 (cereals)、とうもろこし、じゃがいものような根菜類及びグリーンバナナのような或る種のフルーツが挙げられる。

病気及び手術に関係する患者の現代の医科学的治療は、大部分、静脈からの栄養素の供給に基づくものであって、それによって、その後の帰結として、腸には発酵すべき物質が供給されない。結腸 (colon) は、身体自身の発酵タンクとして機能し、その目的は、結腸そのものの機能のためだけでなく、例えば、重金属、過剰量のコレステロール等の有害な物質を減少させるためにも有益な栄養素を産生することにある。結腸が機能するためには、適当なバクテリア及び基質、特に、スターチ及び食物繊維が供給されなければならない。結腸の容量の約半分はバクテリアであり、大半は嫌気性のタイプである。最も重要なバクテリアは、結腸の粘膜上に存在するバクテリアである。結腸のバクテリアの中で、少数の潜在的に有害なタイプがある。有用なバクテリアが存在する限り、有害なバクテリア量は、抑制される。最近の研究によって、結腸の粘膜が発酵産物からその栄養素の多くを、主に短鎖の脂肪酸の形態で得る

ことが判明した。正常な発酵過程には、一日あたり約30gの食物繊維の供給と、適当なバクテリアの存在が必要である。

本発明の組成物にとって好ましい基質は、優れた栄養価(nutritional value)を組成物に与えるものでもあり、オートミールを基本とした栄養液である。穀類のオート麦は、多くの態様において発酵にとって良い基質であることが示された：それは蛋白質、炭水化物、脂肪、食物繊維及びいわゆるβ-グルカンと呼ばれる水溶性繊維を豊富に含有する。加えて、オート麦またはオートミール脂肪は非常に多くの量の表面活性を有する磷脂質を有し、これは、胃粘膜バリアー“浸食インヒビター(corrosion inhibitors)”として機能し、粘膜の保護を行う。最後に、オート麦の蛋白質のアミノ酸組成物は、非常にヒトの身体に必要なものに相当する。WO 89/08405において、栄養素組成物は、腸の摂食(enteral feeding)に相当する旨記載され、それは、オートミールのα-アミラーゼ、おそらくプロテアーゼ、及びβ-グルカナーゼによる酵素的分解、熱処理、並びに自発的に腸に付着する能力を有するラクトバシラスによる発酵の組み合わせによって得られる。上記特許出願に記載されている栄養素組成物は、本発明のラクトバシラス菌株を組み合わせると、集中治療病

受けた患者が、抗生物質よりもむしろラクトバシラスで前処理されるほうが妥当であるように思われる。これは、正常な腸内細菌叢を破壊しないので、潜在的な二次的な効果の少ない治療のより安価な形態が確立され得ることを意味する。

本発明は、また、外科手術、手術後のリハビリテーション等に関するバクテリア感染の治療又は予防のために、抗生物質の代りに、本発明のラクトバシラス菌株によって発酵された栄養組成物を使用する用途にも関する。

それは、特に、ラクトバシラス プランタラム 299によって発酵された栄養素溶液をベースとするオートミールに関する。

試験動物での実験では、同一種の動物の腸粘膜から単離したラクトバシラス菌株を含む組成物で治療した動物において、統計学的に有効な生存率を示した。ラットでの試験では、腸内で実験的に誘発された大腸炎(colitis, colit)及び潰瘍の優れた予防とより迅速な治癒(healing)を示した。

本発明の組成物は、任意の適当な方法で投与することができ、好ましくは経口又は直腸に、例えば浣腸の形態で投与することができる。それはまた、胃を通して腸内に挿入された又は直接腸内に挿入されたカテーテルを通して腸投

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(intensive-care-disease)又は器官虚脱(organ

collapse)の犠牲となった患者の特別な治療、及び例えば潰瘍性大腸炎のような各種の腸の疾患の治療に、大手術後の通常治療に関連する患者への栄養投与のための優れた組成物である。

本発明のオートミールをベースとする栄養組成物(nutrient composition)中で使用するためには、ラクトバシラス菌株は以下の条件を満たさなければならない：

- オート麦の優れた発酵；
- (胃のpHに相当する)pH1.0において30分間の生存；
- 胆汁酸塩(bile salts)の存在下での生存及び生育；
- 腸粘膜上に着定(settle)し残存(remain)する能力。

また、発酵中のpH値が、他のバクテリアの生育を止めるために、速く低下することも必須である。

腸内にコロナイズし又は付着(adhere)する能力を有するラクトバシラスの投与により、異なるバクテリア叢が腸でコロナイズすることを抑制することができ、その結果、腹部の手術後の合併症のようなバクテリア感染に関係する敗血症(sepsis)の危険を減少させることとなる。この治療は、抗生物質の形態で今日使用されている慣用的な治療と同様に有効であるように思われる。従って、腸の手術を

与(administered enterally)することができる。試験によって、例えばオートミール粥(oatmeal gruel)又はβ-グルカンの形態の食物繊維を供給すると効果が改善されることが示された。この治療は、1-2週間の期間一日1回又は数回行う。

同封の図面Fig. 1-2は、新規ラクトバシラス菌株299及び271のREA-パターンを示し、Fig. 3は、それぞれ、ラクトバシラスによって発酵されたオートミール粥の経口投与の前、直後及び数日後の回腸中のラクトバシラスの濃度を示す。

実施例

ヒト由来のラクトバシラス菌株の単離

ヒト腸粘膜上にコロナイズし定着するようになる能力を有する菌株を単離するために、ラクトバシラス菌株をヒト腸粘膜からサンプリングした。結腸からのバイオプシーは、エンテロスコピー(enteroscopy)によって行い、小腸(空腸及び回腸)由来の腸粘膜片を、外科手術に関連して取り外した。粘膜試料を、直ちに、特別な培地(0.9% NaCl、0.1%ペプトン、0.1% Tween 80及び0.02%シスチン；すべて値は%重量/容量で示す。)に入れ、2分間超音波浴でホモジナイズし、1分間攪拌し、次いで、ロゴサアガー(Rogosa agar)(ディフコラ

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ボラトリーズ、デトロイト、ミシガン、U S A、Difco Laboratories, Detroit, Michigan, USA) 上に置いた。プレートは37℃で2日間(2d)(ガスバックアンアエロビックシステム、Gas Pak Anaerobic System, BBL) 嫌氣的にインキュベートした。1個から3個のコロニーを、それぞれのプレートからランダムにピックアップし、ロゴサアガー上で5~9回純粋培養して生育し、-80℃で凍結バッファー中で濃縮培養物(dense culture)として保存した。総数209個のラクトバシラス菌株を、61種の異なった患者(subjects)から単離した。単離物の全てを、49種の異なった炭水化物を発酵する能力について、API、モンタリユー、ベルスー、フランス(Montalieu Vercey, France)から販売されているテストキット、API 50 CHによって特徴付けた。小腸と大腸との間でラクトバシラス叢の組成において、重要な相違点は見られなかった。

異なった群の代表的な菌株を、pH耐性、胆汁の存在下での生育能力及びオートミール粥を発酵する能力について評価した。

pH耐性は、0.1mlのバクテリア懸濁液(ロゴサブロス(Rogosa broth)中で培養し、遠心後、生理食塩水に再懸濁した 10^9 CFU/ml)を2mlの燐酸塩バッファ

なわれた。各調製物は、最終生成物が凍結乾燥品1gあたり 8×10^7 CFUの割合になるように混合した。

この研究には、31~56歳の間の12人のボランティアが参加し、各人が、水1mlあたり1gの凍結乾燥品をベースにした100mlの液体オートミール粥の10ボトルを受取った。オートミール粥の消費の開始前、被験者が10日間毎日朝食として100mlのオートミール粥を消費した11日後、及び更に10日後(即ち、オートミール粥消費完了後11日である)に、腸粘膜から試料を採取した。腸の試料は、ワトソンカプセル(Watson capsule)によって小腸(回腸)から及びレクトスコプ(rectoscopy)によって直腸からバイオブシーとして採取した。バイオブシーは、上述したように調製され、生存ラクトバシラスの量を分析した。それぞれの試料から、約10個のコロニーをロゴサアガープレートからピックアップし、それらを純粋培養後、同定されるまで-80℃で凍結保存した。

全ての単離物を、上述のようにAPI 50 CH上で試験した。試験した菌株のいずれにも相当する又は大部分相当すると思われる単離物について、以下に示す方法に従ってプラスミド分析及び制限エンドヌクレアーゼ分析によって、更に試験した。

一般的な傾向として、腸粘膜上のラクトバシラスの量は、

一、pH 1.0に加えて試験した。30分後、ロゴサアガープレートに接種し、もし37℃で3日間インキュベーション後生育が観察されたなら、試験は陽性とする。試験した菌株の数種のみがこの試験をパスした。

胆汁存在下での生育は、ロゴサアガープレート中それぞれ0.1%及び0.15%のビーフ胆汁(beef bile)存在下37℃、3日間嫌氣的に培養したラクトバシラスの単離物を生育させることによって試験した。約80%の菌株が、0.1%胆汁の存在下で生育したが、0.15%胆汁中ではわずか18%が生育し得るに過ぎなかった。

これら試験結果に基づき、20種の異なるラクトバシラス菌株を選択し、更に研究した。

ヒトにおけるインビボでの腸のコロナイゼーション

健康被験者にある期間毎日、上記に従って注意深く選択された20種の異なるラクトバシラス菌株の混合物を含む発酵されたオートミール粥を与えた。その後、消費された菌株のうちのどの菌株が、小腸及び大腸からの粘膜上に観察できるかを調査した。

発酵されたオートミール粥を、以下に記載のプロトコールに従って作った。これは、以下の表1に示したように、この実験では、ラクトバシラスのそれぞれ菌株で容易に行

発酵したオートミール粥の消費の間増加し、この増加は、投与完了後11日間続いたのが観察された。図3において、回腸中のラクトバシラスの対数濃度(logarithmic concentration)を、試験開始前($t=0$)、試験完了日($t=1$)及び更に10日後($t=11$)について、グラムダイアグラムで示す。小腸において増加はより明確であるが、一方、大腸においては、全体としてのラクトバシラスの量がより大きい。更に、グラム陰性嫌氣性バクテリアの結腸での量が、発酵したオートミール粥の消費後減少したのが観察できた。

以下の菌株がラクトバシラス投与完了後10日で腸粘膜上に上位で観察された。

ラクトバシラス プランタラム(Lactobacillus plantarum) 299は、11被験者中で観察された(5被験者においては小腸においてのみ、5被験者においては小腸においてのみ)。

ラクトバシラス カセイ エスエスピー、ラムノサス(Lactobacillus casei ssp. rhamnosus) 271は、4被験者中で観察された(1被験者においては小腸においてのみ、他の2被験者においては小腸においてのみ)。

ラクトバシラス レウテリ(Lactobacillus reuteri) 108は、4被験者中で観察された(1被験者においては小

表 1 (つづき)

菌株 番号	種類	CFU / g	* CFU / g	*** 香味
96	クラスター 19** (cluster 19)	4.9×10^8	4.3×10^7	3
99	クラスター 12** (cluster 12)	4.6×10^9	1.39×10^9	4
99*	クラスター 12** (cluster 12)	1.0×10^9	1.6×10^8	2
308	エム.アシドフィルス (<i>L. acidophilus</i>)	5.9×10^8	1.0×10^8	3
280	エム.サリバリウス (<i>L. salivarius</i>)	3.0×10^8	2.43×10^6	3

* 凍結乾燥後

** クラスターナンバリングは、モリン ジー (Molin G) らによる (発行準備中) (under publication) 腸関連ラクトバシラスに関する数の分類 (numerical taxonomy) についての研究を参照するものである。

*** 5-1 の評価による。

表 2

選択したラクトバシラス菌株でのオートミール粥の発酵

	菌株 299	271	294	108
最終 pH	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.8
酸価	8.0	6.5	8.1	6.5
L-ラクトレート g/100g (lactate)	0.18	0.40	0.32	0.25
D-ラクトレート g/100g	0.390	0.031	0.24	0.19
酢酸 g/100g	0.57	0.43	0.55	0.44
D-ラクトレート %	69	7	43	44
アセテート g/100g (acetate)	0.0084	0.013	0.13	0.0026
凍結乾燥後の減少 %	65	86	94	98
最終 CFU/g	2×10^9	4×10^9	8×10^8	1×10^9

加えて、選択された4種の菌株の香味を、上述した同じ評価記号を用いて、一方では市販されているヨーグルト培養物 (ストレプトコッカスサーモフィラス (*Streptococcus thermophilus*) 及びラクトバシラスブルガリカス (*Lactobacillus bulgaricus*)) 及び他方では市販さ

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発酵によってオートミール粥に好ましい香味を与える能力を、異なった菌株によって発酵したオートミール粥を判断する4名からなる“エキスパートパネル (expert panel)”によって判断した。香味は、5から1と下がっていく等級で評価し、5は“とてもよい”との判断を示し、1は“味気無い (unsavoury)”との判断を示す。20種の選択した試験菌株の評価を上記の表1に示す。

オートミール粥の発酵

優勢な量で腸粘膜で見つけられた4種の菌株を、オートミール粥を発酵させる能力、凍結乾燥に耐える能力及びオートミール粥における香味の改善について更に調査した。

オートミール粥を発酵する能力は、pHを4.0未満に減少させる能力及び $> 10^8$ CFU/g 湿重量のレベルでCFUを形成する能力によって判断した。

オートミール粥中凍結乾燥に耐える能力は、別の選択基準である。この関係において、CFUの濃度を、凍結乾燥後に測定した。

オートミール粥での上記試験の結果を、以下の表2に示す。

れているアシドフィルスサワーミルク培養物 (ラクトバシラスアシドフィルス) との比較によって評価した。結果を以下の表3に示す。

表 3

ラクトバシラス菌株で発酵したオートミール粥の香味

ヨーグルト	アシドフィルス サワーミルク	299	271	294	108
3	2	5	4	3	1

これらの値を基にして、菌株299及び271が特別な重要性があると判断し、更に以下に詳細に記載する。

ラクトバシラス菌株299及び271の記載

菌株299及び271は、共に健康なヒト腸粘膜から単離され、ドイッチェ サムルング フォン ミクロオルガニズメン ウント ツェルクルツレーン ゲーエムペーハーに、1991年7月2日に寄託され、寄託番号DSM 6595 (299) 及びDSM 6594 (271) が付与されている。

表現型の記載

表 4

異なった炭水化物から酸を生成する能力

菌株299及び271は、グラム陽性であり、pH5.5でのロゴサアガー上で生育するカタラーゼ陰性かん菌(catalase negative rods)である。異なった炭水化物を発酵する該菌株の能力を、表4に示す。試験は、製造業者の説明書に基づき、API 50CHによって行った。

	菌株	
	299	271
1. グリセロール	-	-
2. エリスリトール	-	-
3. D-アラビノース	-	-
4. L-アラビノース	+	-
5. リボース	+	+
6. D-キシロース	-	-
7. L-キシロース	-	-
8. アドニトール	-	-
9. β -メチル-キシロシド	-	-
10. ガラクトース	+	+
11. D-グルコース	+	+
12. D-フルクトース	+	+
13. D-マンノース	+	+
14. L-ソルボース	-	+
15. ラムノース	-	+
(Rhamnos)		
16. ズルシトール	-	-
17. イノシトール	-	+

表 4 (つづき)

	菌株	
	299	271
18. マンニトール	+	+
19. ソルビトール	+	+
20. α -メチル-D-マンノシド	+	+
21. α -メチル-D-グルコシド	-	+
22. N-アセチル-グルコサミン	+	+
23. アミグダリン	+	+
24. アルブチン	+	+
(Arbutin)		
25. エスクリン	+	+
(Esculin)		
26. サリシン	+	+
27. セロビオース	+	+
28. マルトース	+	+
29. ラクトース	+	+
30. メリビオース	+	-
31. サッカロース	+	+
32. トレハロース	+	+
33. イヌリン	-	-
34. メレチトース	+	+

表 4 (つづき)

	菌株	
	299	271
35. D-ラフィノース	-	-
36. アミドン	-	-
(Amidon)		
37. グリコーゲン	-	-
(Glycogene)		
38. ジリトール	-	-
(Zylitol)		
39. β -ゲンチオビオース	+	+
40. D-ツラノース	+	+
(D-turanose)		
41. D-リキソース	-	+
42. D-タガトース	-	+
43. D-フコース	-	-
44. L-フコース	-	-
45. D-アラビトール	-	-
46. L-アラビトール	-	-
47. グルコネート	+	+
(Gluconate)		

表4 (つづき)

	菌株	
	299	271
48. 2-ケトグルコネート (2-Keto-gluconate)	-	-
49. 5-ケトグルコネート (5-Keto-gluconate)	-	-

表現型上は、菌株299はラクトバシラス プランタラム (*Lactobacillus plantarum*) (ラフィノース(raffinose)のみがエル、プランタラムATCC14917^Tの試験パターンから逸脱した。これは、種エル、プランタラムの代表菌株(type strain)、即ち、種(species)を決定する菌株である。)として同定できる。271は、ラクトバシラス カセイ エスユービーエスビー、ラムノサス (*Lactobacillus casei* subsp. *rhaenosus*) (この種の代表菌株と完全に対応する)として同定できる。

遺伝子型(genotype)の記載

上記2種の菌株を、EcoRIでの切断に関して、制限-エンドヌクレアーゼ分析-REA-(スタール エム., モリン ジー., パーソン エー., アールネ エス., 及びスタール エス., (Ståhl M., Molin G., Persson A.

スミドを含有する。染色体DNAの切断パターンを図1に示す。299とマークされたレーンは、菌株299のパターンを示し、vとマークされたレーンは、2種の異なる単離物由来の菌株299の遺伝子的な変異体を示す; この変異体は、ヒトで試験した20種の菌株の一つであり、表1にA1と記載した。レーンsは、スタンダードであり、高分子Mw DNAマーカー(AEH; BRL, ベセスダ リサーチ ラボラトリーズ(Bethesda Research Laboratories)ライフ テクノロジーズ インコーポレーティッド(Life Technologies Inc.社))を示す。299の変異体は、一般的な表現型の試験によっては、299と分離することができなかった。また、遺伝子的に、299と299vは、非常に近い。この変異体が、ヒト腸粘膜中で定着する同じ能力を有していることも、判明した。

菌株271: この菌株は、大きさがそれぞれ3MDa1及び5MDa1の2種のプラスミドを含有する。該菌株の染色体DNAの切断パターンを、レーンAとして図2に示す。レーンvは、菌株271の遺伝子的な変異体を示す; レーンsは、図1に示したのと同じスタンダードを示す。271の変異体は、一般的な表現型の試験によっては、271と分離することができなかった。また、遺伝子的に、271と271vは、非常に近い。この変異体が、姉妹の

特表平6-501624 (10)

Ahrné S., & Ståhl S) インターナショナル ジャーナル オブ システマティック バクテリオロジー(Journal of Systematic Bacteriology) 40: 189-193, 1990) により、染色体DNAの切断パターンについて試験した。概要的にはREAは以下のように記載し得る:

- (1) 染色体DNAは、試験に関与した菌株から単離される;
- (2) 該DNAは、制限酵素によって切断される;
- (3) 切断されたDNA断片は、アガロースゲル電気泳動によってサイズ別に分離される。
- (4) 各菌株のバンドパターンは、レーザーデンストメーター及び関連するプログラムによって記録、解釈される。REAパターンに関して、菌株間の違いは、主成分分析(principal component analysis)によって数学的に表される。1990)

更に、プラスミドの内容について、実験を行った(アールネ エス., モリン ジー., 及びスタール エス., システマティック アンド アプライド マイクロバイオロジー(Systematic and Applied Microbiology) 11: 320-325, 1989 に従った方法)。

菌株299: この菌株は、大きさがそれぞれ4MDa1、9MDa1、20MDa1及び35MDa1の4種のプラ

菌株として、ヒト腸粘膜にコロナイズする同じ能力を有していることも判明した。

遺伝子的に、2つの実験した菌株は本質的に異なる。それらは、それぞれの代表菌株とも有意に異なる。

ラクトバシラス299の培養

- 80℃のフリーザーからの接種物(inoculate)を、50mlのラクトバシラスキャリアング培地(*Lactobacillus Carrying Medium*) (LCM, エフシミオウおよびハンセン(Efthymiou & Hansen), J. Infect. Dis., 110: 258-267, 1962)又はロゴサに加え、
- 約40時間37℃でインキュベートし、
- 50mlを500mlのLCMに接種し、
- 約40時間37℃でインキュベートし、
- 500mlを5リットルに接種し、
- 約25-30時間37℃でインキュベートし、
- 10000rpmで10分間遠心し、
- 生理食塩水で1度洗浄し、
- 該ペレットを、約1リットルの生理食塩水に溶解する。

この量は、約400-500 リットルのオートミール粥に十分であると評価される。培養培地は最適化されていない。ロゴサはLCMより良く作用し、それは多分より良いバッファー機能による。2%グルコースをLCMに加え

た。同じ操作を、他のラクトバシラス菌株を産生するのに使用することができる。

ラットでの生物学的試験

250-300gの体重を有するラットに、標準的な手術を施し、大腸の一部を単離し穴を開けることによって腹腔中に膿瘍を発生させる。即ち、これにより、腸内容物が腹腔内へ連続的に漏出し、これが24時間以内に膿瘍、腐敗(sepsis)及び引き続く高率の死亡率を惹起する。各群30匹からなる3グループの動物を使用した。グループ1は、処理しない対照群、グループ2は、注射により抗生物質で処理し、グループ3は、胃に発酵オートミール粥の形態でラクトバシラスを供給した。使用したそのラクトバシラス菌株は、ラット腸粘膜から単離されたものであり、試験においてラット腸にコロナイズし確立されるようになることが証明されている。

試験の評価は、血中のバクテリアの量、即ち敗血症と同等のもの、及び腹腔および腸からの培養物の分析により行った。結果は、グループ1の動物全てに血中にバクテリアが検出され、高い死亡率につながった。グループ2及び3において、30匹の動物中3匹にバクテリアが発生するという同等の結果が得られたが、グループ1よりも程度ははるかに低かった。

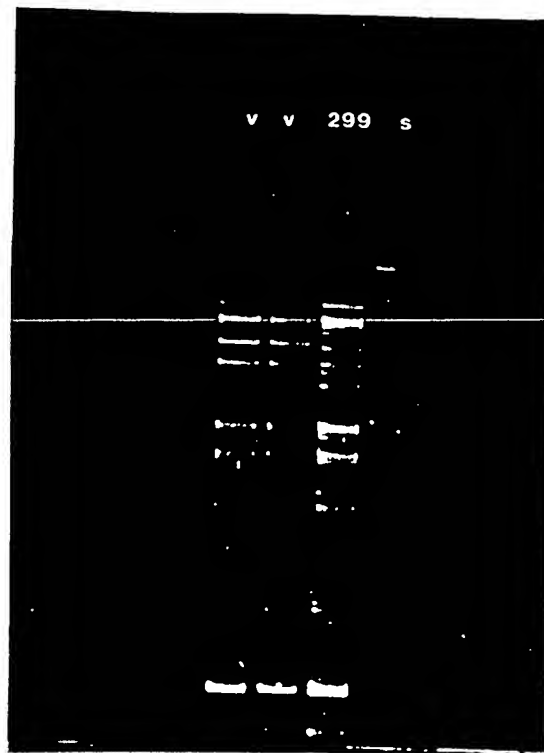


FIG. 1

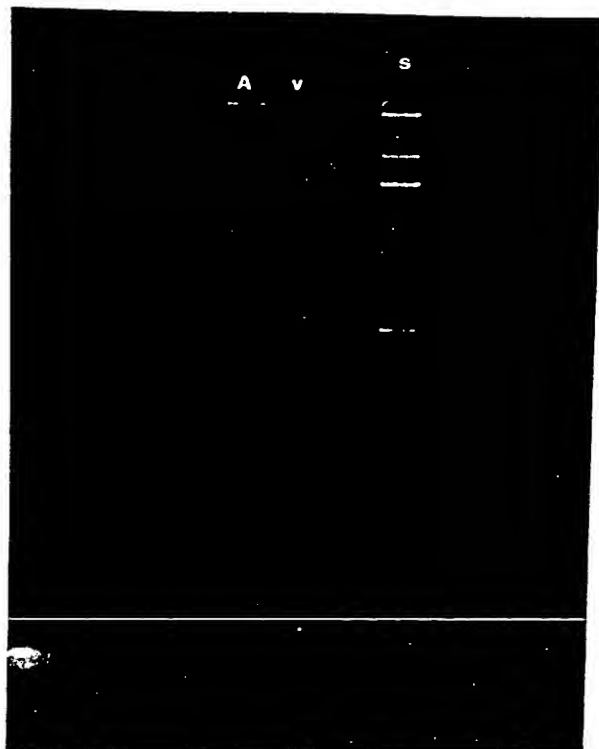
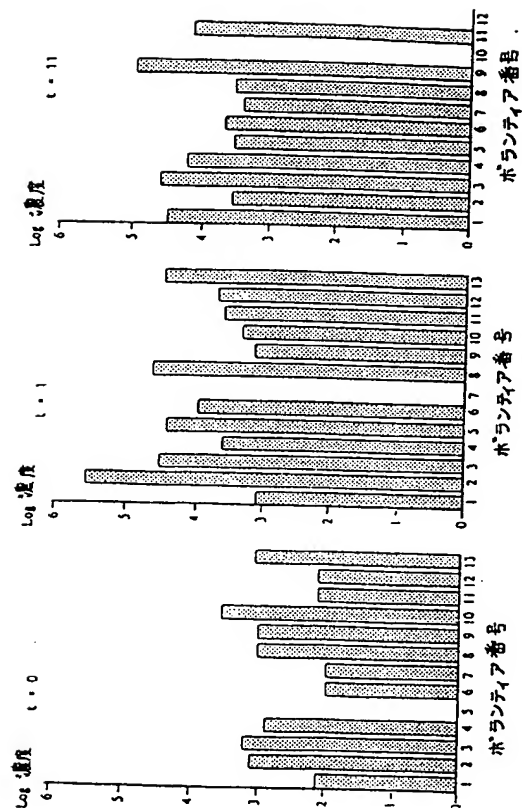


FIG. 2

FIG. 3



国际调查报告

International Application No. PCT/SE 92/00528

1. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (Inventor classification symbols only, indicate only)
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to the latest Classification and IPC
IPC5: A 61 K 35/74, C 12 N 1/20

2. FIELDS SEARCHED
Minimum Documentation Document
Classification System
IPC5: A 61 K

3. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT
Category¹ Citation of Document² with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages³ Relevant to Claim No.⁴

X, Y	EP, A2, 0271364 (BIOREM C.C.) 15 June 1988, see page 3, line 28 - line 32; page 3, line 57 - line 65; page 4, line 22 - line 24 claims	1-4,6
Y	WO, A1, 9105850 (TARTUSKY GOSUDARSTVENNY UNIVERSITET) 2 May 1991, see the whole document	1-4,6
Y	WO, A1, 9105851 (TARTUSKY GOSUDARSTVENNY UNIVERSITET) 2 May 1991, see the whole document	1-4,6
Y	Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, accession no. 04639496, Medline accession no. 82182496, Bongetta R et al: "The colonization of Streptococcus faecium in human intestinal tract after oral administration", & Soil Ist Sieroter Milan Nov 1981, 60 (5) p381-5	1-4,6

* Special categories of cited documents:
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 "B" Documents not published in or under the International Classification.
 "C" Documents which are not in the English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, or Swedish languages.
 "D" Documents which are not in the English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, or Swedish languages.
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 "Y" Documents which are not in the English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, or Swedish languages.
 "Z" Documents which are not in the English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, or Swedish languages.

IV. CERTIFICATION
 Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search: 3rd November 1992
 Date of Mailing of this International Search Report: 05-11-1992
 International Searching Authority: SWEDISH PATENT OFFICE
 Signature of Authorizing Officer: Mikael Gison-Bernstrand

International Application No. PCT/SE 92/00528

III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)

Category ¹	Citation of Document ² with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ³	Relevant to Claim No. ⁴
Y	Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, Dialog accession no. 05441493, Medline accession no. 85057493, Justesen, T et al: "Normal cultivable microflora in upper jejunal fluid in children without gastrointestinal disorders", & J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr Nov 1984, 3 (5) p683-6	1
Y	Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, Dialog accession no. 05420589, Medline accession no. 85036589, Britis VI et al: "Adhesive properties of lactobacilli isolated from the human gastrointestinal tract", & Nahrung 1984, 28 (6-7) p635-40	1
Y	Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, Dialog accession no. 05272203, Medline accession no. 84196203, Justesen T et al: "The normal cultivable microflora in upper jejunal fluid in healthy adults", & Scand J Gastroenterol Mar 1984, 19 (2) p279-82	1

International Application No. PCT/SE 92/00528

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET

V. OBSERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE¹
 This International Search Report is not based on a search of the prior art in the field of the invention.
 1. ☒ Claim 1 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 See PCT Rule 39.1 (iv): Methods for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 2. ☐ Claim 2 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 3. ☐ Claim 3 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 4. ☐ Claim 4 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 5. ☐ Claim 5 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 6. ☐ Claim 6 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 7. ☐ Claim 7 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 8. ☐ Claim 8 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 9. ☐ Claim 9 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 10. ☐ Claim 10 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 11. ☐ Claim 11 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
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 98. ☐ Claim 98 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 99. ☐ Claim 99 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.
 100. ☐ Claim 100 is unsearchable because it relates to a method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.

国际调查报告

PCT/SE 92/00528

This search report is based on the search conducted by the International Searching Authority in the field of the invention.
 The search was conducted in the Swedish Patent Office (SPP) file on 30/09/92.
 The Swedish Patent Office is to be notified of the results of the search and to be notified of the results of the search.

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP-A2- 0271364	88-06-15	AU-B- 624067	92-06-04
		AU-D- 8240687	88-06-16
WO-A1- 9105850	91-05-02	FR-A- 2656798	91-07-12
WO-A1- 9105851	91-05-02	NONE	

フロントページの続き

(51) Int. Cl.⁵ 識別記号 庁内整理番号 F I
C 1 2 R 1:245)

(72) 発明者 ジェブソン ベングト
 スウェーデン国 エス-222 47 ルンド
 マータレグランデン 8

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INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁵ : A61K 35/74, C12N 1/20	A1	(11) International Publication Number: WO 93/01823 (43) International Publication Date: 4 February 1993 (04.02.93)
(21) International Application Number: PCT/SE92/00528 (22) International Filing Date: 24 July 1992 (24.07.92) (30) Priority data: 9102238 25 July 1991 (25.07.91) SE (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): PROBI AB [SE/SE]; Forskningsbyn Ideon, S-223 70 Lund (SE). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only) : MOLIN, Göran [SE/SE]; Examensvägen 2, S-223 67 Lund (SE). AHRNE, Siv [SE/SE]; Domarevägen 19, S-237 00 Bjärred (SE). BENGMARK, Stig [SE/SE]; Box 5003, S-222 05 Lund (SE). JEPPSON, Bengt [SE/SE]; Mätaregränden 8, S-222 47 Lund (SE).		(74) Agents: LARFELDT, Helene et al.; Bergenstråhle & Lindvall AB, Box 17704, S-118 93 Stockholm (SE). (81) Designated States: AU, CA, FI, JP, NO, US, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IT, LU, MC, NL, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: INTESTINE COLONIZING LACTOBACILLI (57) Abstract A process for isolation of a strain of Lactobacillus having the ability of being established on human intestinal mucosa in vivo and being able to remain therein after oral administration for at least 10 days after the completion of the administration. By the process the new strains L. plantarum 299 (DSM 6595) and L. casei ssp. rhamnosus 271 (DSM 6594) have been isolated, which are useful for the prophylaxis or treatment of bacterial infections, especially in the form of a fermented nutrient composition.		

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DE	Germany	MC	Monaco	US	United States of America
DK	Denmark	MG	Madagascar		
ES	Spain				

Intestine colonizing lactobacilli

The present invention refers to a process for isolation
5 of strains of Lactobacillus having the ability to colonize
and become established on intestinal mucosa in vivo after
oral administration, strains obtained by this process, and
the use thereof for the prophylaxis or treatment of bacterial
infections, especially in the form of a composition com-
10 prising an oatmeal based nutrient solution fermented by one
of said strains.

Many people have a disturbed intestinal microflora, that
is, the balance between useful and harmful intestinal bac-
teria is disturbed. A number of factors, among others stress,
15 the occurrence of bile salts, diet, etc. influence the bac-
terial flora. Most important is, however, that modern anti-
biotic treatment can destroy the normal flora for a long
period of time, and thus, eliminate a normal fermentation
process. Should the fermentation process be disturbed and the
20 number of useful bacteria be reduced, the consequence will be
that the colon mucosa withers away and ceases to function at
the same time as the potentially malignant bacteria rapidly
grow in number. These bacteria penetrate the malfunctioning
colon wall and infect the organs of the body which leads to
25 the so called intensive-care-disease with pus foci all over
the body and possibly also an abolished function of most of
the organs of the body, a collapse of organs. Blood poison-
ing, sepsis, caused by abscesses in the abdominal cavity is
still a very common surgical complication in connection with
30 abdominal surgery with a high death-rate. These patients are
today treated by administration of antibiotics and surgical
treatment of the abscess to the extent it could be located.
At present antibiotics are conventionally administered before
intestinal surgery in order to reduce the risk of post-
35 operative infections and illness caused thereby. However, the
treatment with antibiotics is expensive and moreover as-
sociated with a risk of different complications such as
allergy and destruction of the normal intestinal flora and
overgrowth with still more pathogenic bacteria.

The fact that lactobacilli should have a favourable effect on the intestinal mucosa is an old idea which has been brought up again. There are however many unclear points as to which microorganisms are involved and as to the ecology of the intestines. Another problem in this connection is that the classification of the genus *Lactobacillus* is incomplete which makes it difficult to identify those strains which are favourable to the function of the intestines. What, after all, seems to be commonly accepted today is that:

10

- Bacteria of the genus *Lactobacillus* have a manifest ability of preventing the establishing of pathogenic bacteria in various ways, irrespective of foodstuffs or intestines being concerned;

15

- Certain strains of *Lactobacillus* are more effective than other strains of the same species in protecting and activating the intestines;

20

- Foodstuffs fermented by lactobacilli have proven to have a cholesterol reducing effect, probably because of a checking of the cholesterol production in the intestines, but maybe also because the bacteria use cholesterol for the production of steroids;

25

- The consumption of great amounts of lactobacilli improves the intestinal motoric activity, the cause of this effect is unknown;

30

- A large proportion of lactobacilli in the intestines counteracts cancer, something which seems to have several grounds. Firstly, certain lactobacilli are able to prevent the production of nitroamines in the intestines by means of the enzyme nitritereductase; nitroamines are cancerogenic. Secondly, lactobacilli may obstruct certain bacterially produced enzymes in the intestines from activating potentially carcinogenic substances. Finally, there are indications of lactobacilli having growth restricting effect on cancer tumours, maybe because the macrophages of the immunological defence system are activated by the presence of the lactobacilli.

35

A decisive weakness of the lactobacilli used today in most conventional foodstuffs is the poor survival of these organisms during the passage through the stomach and duodenum. This brought about a the development of a product
5 called "acidofilusfil", acidophilus sourmilk, wherein milk was fermented with a strain of Lactobacillus acidophilus isolated directly from human faeces. L. acidophilus manages the passage through the upper part of the gastro-intestinal tract well. However, in order to have an effect on the micro-
10 flora in the intestines for a longer period of time, it is essential that the lactobacillus is able to become established in the intestines. According to Lidbeck, A et al, Scand J Infect Dis, 4, pp 531-537, 1987, the increase in the number of lactobacilli in the microflora of the intestines,
15 which occurs after consumption of a preparation containing Lactobacillus acidophilus, is gradually slowing down as the consumption thereof ceases, and consequently after 9 days without supply the bacterial flora has regained its original composition.

20 EP-A2-0 199 535 describes a biologically pure culture of Lactobacillus acidophilus, ATCC accession No. 53 103, isolated from human faeces, being able to adhere to mucosal cells in tests in vitro. An adherence in vivo has, however, not been demonstrated.

25 WO 89/05849 describes lactic acid bacteria isolated from the gastro-intestinal tract in pigs and selected by means of, among others, adhesion to gastro-intestinal epithelial cells from pigs in vitro and tolerance against acid and bile. Said bacteria can be used for the fermentation of milk which then
30 can be given to piglets to prevent or treat i.a. E. coli diarrhoea.

The strains of Lactobacillus which are commercially used today have above all been selected for being passably capable of growing in current primary products as for example milk.
35 If a certain strain is to exercise an optional favourable influence, it is without doubt a prerequisite that it is able to become established in the intestines and to compete with the existing microflora. Knowledge about which properties are necessary for a certain Lactobacillus strain to be able to

stand this competition is for the most part unknown.

The present invention refers to a process for isolation of a strain of *Lactobacillus* having the ability to colonize and become established on human intestinal mucosa in vivo,

5 characterized in that lactobacilli are isolated from human intestinal mucosa and are pure cultured in a suitable nutritient medium and then selected as to the ability to colonize and become established in the intestines.

The ability of the strain to colonize in the intestines
10 is preferably tested by oral administration, and a subsequent verification of the occurrence on the intestinal mucosa at least 10 days after the completion of the administration.

A complementary selection of isolated strains can take place, before or after the test of the colonization, by an
15 evaluation of different functional and technical properties, such as bile resistance, pH-resistance, ability of fermentation of a requested substrate, preferably oatmeal, and of producing flavour, ability to resist freeze-drying, antibiotics resistance, etc.

20 To manage the passage through the gastro-intestinal tract the selected strains thus ought to be able to survive at a pH of 1.0 for 30 minutes and also to grow in the presence of 0.1% bile.

The invention also refers to strains of *Lactobacillus*
25 having the ability of colonizing human intestinal mucosa in vivo, obtained by the isolation process described above. According to one theory the strains of *Lactobacillus* which are facultatively heterofermentative constitute a preferred type for the establishment in the intestines.

30 The invention especially refers to new *Lactobacillus* strains having the ability of colonizing human intestinal mucosa in vivo, which have been deposited according to the Budapest Agreement at the DSM - Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH -, Braunschweig, Germany on
35 July 2, 1991, that is

Lactobacillus plantarum 299

DSM 6595

Lactobacillus casei ssp. *rhamnosus* 271

DSM 6594

The invention also refers to variants thereof having an essentially corresponding REA-pattern. A REA-pattern refers to the pattern formed in electrophoresis on agar gel of DNA which has been decomposed with a restriction enzyme according to the method described below. By characterization of the strains by means of their REA-pattern the identity of the used isolates can be established, something which has not been possible before. Closely related strains of *Lactobacillus* with differences in the REA-pattern show differences as to the ability of adherence to intestinal epithelium.

The invention also refers to a composition for the prophylaxis or treatment of infections in the gastro-intestinal tract, which comprises a *Lactobacillus* strain having the ability to colonize and become established in human intestinal mucosa in vivo, which has been obtained according to the method of the invention, combined with a conventional carrier.

In particular the invention refers to a composition comprising any of the strains

<i>Lactobacillus plantarum</i> 299	DSM 6595
<i>Lactobacillus casei</i> ssp. <i>rhamnosus</i> 271	DSM 6594

or a variant thereof having an essentially corresponding REA-pattern.

Conventional carriers are for example physiologically acceptable substrates fermented by the bacterium in question, as well as foodstuffs of various kinds, especially based on starch or milk, but also inert solid or liquid substances, such as saline or water. A suitable substrate should contain liquid or solid fibres which are not resorbed in the gastro-intestinal tract and which when fermented with *Lactobacillus* form short fatty acids. As an example of suitable, starch-containing substrates can be mentioned cereals, such as oats and wheat, corn, root vegetables such as potatoes and certain fruits such as green bananas.

Modern medical care of patients in connection with illness and surgery is to a large extent based on the supply of nutrition via the veins, whereby the intestines are not

supplied with material to ferment with subsequent consequences. The colon functions as the body's own fermentation tank, the purpose of which is to produce useful nutrients, among others for the function of the colon itself, but also for
5 eliminating harmful substances, for example heavy metals, excessive amounts of cholesterol etc. In order for the colon to function there must be a supply of suitable bacteria and substrates, particularly starch and dietary fibres. About
10 half of the contents of the colon is bacteria, mostly of the anaerobic type. The most important bacteria are those located on the colon mucosa. Among the bacteria of the colon there is a minority of a potentially harmful type. As long as the useful bacteria are present the harmful bacterial flora is suppressed. Recent studies have shown that the colon mucosa
15 obtains most of its nutrition from fermentation products, mainly in the form of short fatty acids. A normal fermentation process requires a supply of about 30 g of dietary fibre daily and the presence of suitable bacteria.

A preferred substrate for the composition according to
20 the invention, which also gives the composition an excellent nutritional value, is a nutrient solution based on oatmeal. The cereal oats has shown to be a good substrate for fermentation in many ways: It is rich in proteins, carbohydrates, fat, dietary fibre and also water-soluble fibre, so called
25 β -glucans. In addition oats or oatmeal fat has a very high content of surface-active phospholipids, which function as gastric mucosal barrier "corrosion inhibitors" and hence give mucosal protection. Finally, the amino acid composition of oat proteins corresponds to a large extent to the needs of
30 the human body. In WO 89/08405 a nutrient composition is described suitable for enteral feeding, which is obtained by a combination of enzymatic decomposition of oatmeal with α -amylase, possibly protease, and β -glucanase and heat treatment and fermentation with a lactobacillus having the ability
35 to adhere to the intestines spontaneously. The nutrient composition described in the referred patent application is in combination with a Lactobacillus strain according to the invention an excellent composition for nutrient administration to patients in connection with the normal treatment

after large operations, for special treatment of patients being victims of the intensive-care-disease or an organ collapse, and for treatment of different intestinal diseases, for example ulcerative colitis.

5 To be useful in an oatmeal based nutrient composition according to the invention a Lactobacillus strain should fulfil the following conditions:

- good fermentation of oats;
- survival at a pH of 1.0 (which corresponds to the pH
10 in the stomach) for 30 minutes;
- survival and growth in the presence of bile salts;
- ability of settling and remaining on the intestinal mucosa.

It is also essential that the pH-value during the fermentation is reduced quickly in order to stop the growth of
15 other bacteria.

It has been shown that the administration of lactobacilli having the ability to colonize in or adhere to the intestines can suppress a different bacterial flora from colonizing the
20 intestines and thus reduce the risk of sepsis in connection with bacterial infections such as complications following abdominal surgery. This treatment seems to be as efficient as the conventional treatment used today in the form of antibiotics. Hence, it seems to be reasonable that patients
25 who are subjected to intestinal surgery are pretreated with lactobacilli rather than antibiotics. This means that a cheaper form of therapy could be established with less potential secondary effects as the normal intestinal flora would not be destroyed.

30 The invention also refers to the use of a nutrient composition fermented by a Lactobacillus strain in accordance with the invention instead of antibiotics for the prophylaxis or treatment of bacterial infections in connection with surgical operations, post surgical rehabilitation etc.

35 It especially refers to an oatmeal based nutrient solution fermented by Lactobacillus plantarum 299.

Experiments with test animals have shown a statistically valid survival in animals treated with a composition comprising a Lactobacillus strain isolated from the intestinal mu-

cosa of an animal of the same species. Tests with rats have shown a good prevention and quicker healing of experimentally induced colitis (colit) and ulcers in the intestines.

The composition according to the invention can be administered in any suitable way, preferably orally or rectally, for example in the form of enema. It can also be administered enterally through a catheter inserted in the intestines via the stomach or directly in the intestines. Tests have shown that the effect is improved if dietary fibres in the form of for example oatmeal gruel or of β -glucans are supplied. The treatment should take place once or several times daily for a period of 1 - 2 weeks.

On the enclosed drawings Figures 1 - 2 show the REA-pattern of the new Lactobacillus strains 299 and 271; and Figure 3 shows the concentration of lactobacilli in ileum before, immediately after, and a few days after, respectively, oral administration of an oatmeal gruel fermented by Lactobacillus.

20 EXAMPLES

Isolation of Lactobacillus strains from humans

In order to isolate strains having the ability to colonize and become established on human intestinal mucosa, strains of Lactobacillus have been sampled from human mucosa. Biopsies from colon were taken by means of enteroscopy and pieces of the intestinal mucosa from the small intestine (jejunum and ileum) were removed in connection with surgical operations. The mucosa samples were immediately placed in a special medium (0.9% NaCl, 0.1% pepton, 0.1% Tween 80 and 0.02% cystine; all values refer to % by weight/volume), homogenized in ultrasonic baths for 2 minutes and stirred for 1 minute before being placed on Rogosa agar (Difco Laboratories, Detroit, Michigan, USA). The plates were incubated anaerobically at 37°C for 2 d (Gas Pak Anaerobic System, BBL). One to three colonies were picked at random from each plate and were grown in pure cultures 5 to 9 times on Rogosa agar and kept as dense cultures in a frozen buffer at -80°C. A total of 209 Lactobacillus strains were isolated from about 61 different subjects. All isolates were characterized as to

the ability of fermenting 49 different carbohydrates by means of API 50 CH, a commercial test kit from API, Montalieu Vercieu, France. No significant difference in the composition of the lactobacilli flora between the small and the large
5 intestines could be found.

Representative strains from the different groups were evaluated as to pH-resistance, ability of growing in the presence of bile, and ability of fermenting oatmeal gruel.

The pH-resistance was tested by adding 0.1 ml bacterial
10 suspension (10^9 CFU/ml which had been cultivated in Rogosa broth, centrifuged and resuspended in a physiological salt solution) to 2 ml phosphate buffer at pH 1.0. After 30 minutes Rogosa agar plates were inoculated and if any growth was visible after incubation at 37°C for 3 days the test was
15 considered to be positive. Only a few of the tested strains passed this test.

Growth in the presence of bile was tested by growing isolates of Lactobacillus in the presence of 0.1% and 0.15%, respectively, beef bile in Rogosa agar plates incubated
20 anaerobically for 3 days at 37°C. About 80% of the strains were able to grow in the presence of 0.1% bile, whereas only 18% managed to grow in 0.15% bile.

Based on the results of these tests 20 different Lactobacillus strains were selected for further investigation.
25

Intestinal colonization in vivo in humans

Healthy test subjects were for a certain period of time daily given a fermented oatmeal gruel comprising a mixture of twenty different strains of Lactobacillus, carefully selected
30 in accordance with the above. It was then investigated which of the consumed strains could be found on the mucosa from the small and large intestine.

Fermented oatmeal gruel was made according to the protocol described below. This was done with each of the strains
35 of Lactobacillus in the study, as stated in Table 1 below. The different preparations were mixed in such proportions that the final product contained 8×10^7 CFU per gram freeze-dried product.

In the study 12 volunteers aged between 31 and 56 years

participated, each of which received ten bottles of 100 ml liquid oatmeal gruel based on 1 g freeze-dried product per ml water. Samples from the intestinal mucosa were taken before the consumption of the oatmeal gruel had started, after 11
5 days when the subjects had consumed 100 ml oatmeal gruel for breakfast daily for a period of 10 days, and after another 10 days, that is 11 days after the completion of the oatmeal gruel consumption. The intestinal samples were taken as
10 biopsies from the small intestine (ileum) by means of a Watson capsule, and from rectum with a rectoscope. The biopsies were prepared as described above and analysed as to the contents of viable *Lactobacillus*. From each sample about ten colonies were picked from the Rogosa agar plate, which were grown in pure cultures and freeze-stored at -80°C until
15 they were identified.

All isolates were tested on API 50 CH as above. The isolates that seemed to correspond with or mainly correspond with any of the test strains were tested further by plasmid analysis and restriction endonuclease analysis according to
20 the methods described below.

As a general trend it was observed that the content of lactobacilli on the intestinal mucosa was increased during the consumption of fermented oatmeal gruel and that this increase was continued for 11 days after the completion of
25 the administration. In Figure 3 the logarithmic concentration of lactobacilli in ileum is shown by means of a column diagram before the start of the test ($t=0$), on the day after the completion of the test ($t=1$) and after another 10 days ($t = 11$). The increase was more pronounced in the small
30 intestine, but on the other hand the content of lactobacilli as a whole was larger in the large intestine. Furthermore, it could be noted that the contents of Gram negative anaerobic bacteria in the colon were reduced after the consumption of the fermented oatmeal gruel.

35 The following strains were found in a dominating position on the intestinal mucosa 10 days after the completion of the administration of lactobacilli:

Lactobacillus plantarum 299 was found in 11 subjects (in 5 subjects only on the small intestine and in 5 others only

on the large intestine);

Lactobacillus casei ssp. rhamnosus 271 was found in 4 subjects (in 1 only on the small intestine and in 2 others only on the large intestine);

- 5 Lactobacillus reuteri 108 was found in 4 subjects (in 1 only on the small intestine and in 1 other only on the large intestine);

Lactobacillus murinus/casei ssp. tolerance 294 was found in 2 subjects.

- 10 The strains which were reisolated 11 days after the completed administration were found on the mucosa in an approximate concentration of 3×10^3 to 10^5 CFU/g mucosa for the small intestine and a concentration of 10^3 to 3×10^7 CFU/g mucosa for the large intestine.

15

Preparation of oatmeal gruel

Fermented oatmeal gruel was made in three steps:

- (i) 1295 g oatmeal (MP-450, Nord-Mills, Järna; protein content 14.2% and ash content 2.1%), 129.5 g
20 enzyme mixture (Nord Malt, Söderhamn) and 5390 g tap water were mixed and heated to 95°C during slow stirring. The gruel was cooled to 50°C, 1% β -glucanase (weight/volume) was added (GV-L; Grindsted Products A/S, Braband, Denmark) and
25 then was incubated for 2 hours at 50°C;
- (ii) The gruel was inoculated with fresh lactobacilli and fermented at 37°C for 15-20 hours. The pH was 3.4 to 3.9. The fermentation was carried out with the different strains each separately and the
30 number of colony forming units, CFU, per ml product varied between 6×10^6 and 2×10^8 on Rogosa agar (anaerobically at 37°C for 20 hours);
- (iii) The fermented gruel was freeze-dried. The different products were mixed in such a proportion
35 that the same value of CFU/g was obtained for all the strains. The mixture was supplemented with 20% (w/w) soybean flour (protein 51%, ash content 5.5%, fat 1%). The enriched mixture contained 2×10^7 CFU/g and was kept at -18°C. Non-fermented

oatmeal gruel was made in the same way as above,
but without fermentation.

Oatmeal gruel was made with all the 20 strains which had
been selected for the intestine colonization test described
5 above and was evaluated as to the concentration before and
after freeze-drying and as to flavour. The results are given
in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Selected strains of Lactobacillus for clinical tests

5	Strain No.	Description	CFU/g	CFU*/g	Flavour***
	138	"aggregating"	8,8 x 10 ⁸	1,78 x 10 ⁸	1
	132	L. salivarius	1,1 x 10 ⁸	6,5 x 10 ⁶	3
10	47	L. reuteri	1,2 x 10 ⁹	3,7 x 10 ⁷	1
	108	L. reuteri	1,5 x 10 ⁹	1,88 x 10 ⁷	1
	98	L. casei pseudo-plantarum	1,63 x 10 ⁹	6,6 x 10 ⁸	2
	292	L. gasseri	1,58 x 10 ⁹	5,1 x 10 ⁸	4
15	299	L. plantarum	1,92 x 10 ⁹	6,71 x 10 ⁸	5
	136	L. casei casei	3,5 x 10 ⁹	1,48 x 10 ⁹	2
	A1	L. plantarum	2,27 x 10 ⁹	4,15 x 10 ⁸	5
	271	L. casei rhamnosus	4,3 x 10 ⁹	6,10 x 10 ⁸	4
20	227	L. buchneri	9,45 x 10	1,81 x 10 ⁸	1
	140	L. gasseri	1,2 x 10 ⁸	8,5 x 10 ⁶	4
	294	L. murinus/casei tolerance	1,63 x 10 ⁹	1,3 x 10 ⁸	3
	283	L. plantarum	7,43 x 10 ⁸	7,55 x 10 ⁷	4
25	282	cluster 25**	7,8 x 10 ⁸	6,65 x 10 ⁷	2
	96	cluster 19**	4,9 x 10 ⁸	4,3 x 10 ⁷	3
	99	cluster 12**	4,6 x 10 ⁹	1,39 x 10 ⁹	4
	99*	cluster 12**	1,0 x 10 ⁹	1,6 x 10 ⁸	2
	308	L. acidophilus	5,9 x 10 ⁸	1,0 x 10 ⁸	3
30	280	L. salivarius	3,0 x 10 ⁸	2,43 x 10 ⁶	3

* after freeze-drying

** the cluster-numbering refers to a work in numerical taxonomy on intestine associated lactobacilli by Molin G et al

35 (under publication).

*** on a scale 5-1

The ability of giving the oatmeal gruel a pleasant flavour by the fermentation was judged by an "expert panel"

40 consisting of four persons who judged the oatmeal gruels

fermented by different strains. The flavour was estimated in a dropping scale from 5 to 1, where 5 denotes the judgement "very good" and 1 the judgement "unsavoury". The values for the 20 selected test strains are shown in Table 1 above.

5

Fermentation of oatmeal gruel

The four strains which were found on the intestinal mucosa in a dominating amount were investigated further as to the ability to ferment oatmeal gruel, the ability to resist freeze-drying and as to the development of flavour in oatmeal gruel.

The ability of fermenting oatmeal gruel was judged by means of the ability to reduce pH below 4.0 and form CFU at a level of $>10^8$ CFU/g wet weight.

15 The ability of resisting freeze-drying in oatmeal gruel was another selection criterium. In this connection the CFU concentration was measured after freeze-drying.

The result of the test above with oatmeal gruel is shown in table 2 below.

20

Table 2

Fermentation of oatmeal gruel with selected strains of Lactobacillus

25		Strain 299	271	294	108
	final pH	3.6	3.8	3.4	3.8
	acid value	8.0	6.5	8.1	6.5
	L-lactate, g/100 g	0.18	0.40	0.32	0.25
30	D-lactate, g/100 g	0.390	0.031	0.24	0.19
	lactate tot., g/100 g	0.57	0.43	0.55	0.44
	D-lactate in %	69	7	43	44
	acetate, g/100 g	0.0084	0.013	0.13	0.0026
	reduction after				
35	freeze-drying in %	65	86	94	98
	final CFU/g	2×10^9	4×10^9	8×10^8	1×10^9

In addition the flavour of the selected 4 strains was evaluated in comparison with on one hand a commercial

yoghurt culture (*Streptococcus thermophilus* and *Lactobacillus bulgaricus*) and on the other hand a commercial culture of acidophilus sourmilk (*Lactobacillus acidophilus*) using the same evaluation symbols as above. The results are given in Table 3 below.

Table 3

Flavour of oatmeal gruel fermented with strains of *Lactobacillus*

10	Yoghourt	Acidophilus	299	271	294	108
		sourmilk				
15	3	2	5	4	3	1

On the basis of these values the strains 299 and 271 were judged to be of special interest and are described in further detail below.

20 Description of *Lactobacillus* strains 299 and 271

The strains 299 and 271, which were both isolated from healthy human intestinal mucosa, have been deposited at the Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH on July 2, 1991 and have been given the deposition numbers DSM 6595 (299) and DSM 6594 (271).

Phenotype description

30 The strains 299 and 271 are Gram positive, catalase negative rods growing on Rogosa agar at pH 5.5. The capacity of the strains to ferment different carbohydrates is shown in Table 4. The tests have been carried out by means of the API 50 CH in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer.

Table 4Ability to form acid from different carbohydrates

5		Strains	
		299	271
	1. Glycerol	-	-
	2. Erythrithol	-	-
10	3. D-arabinose	-	-
	4. L-arabinose	+	-
	5. Ribose	+	+
	6. D-xylose	-	-
	7. L-xylose	-	-
15	8. Adonithol	-	-
	9. β -methyl-xyloside	-	-
	10. Galactose	+	+
	11. D-glucose	+	+
	12. D-fructose	+	+
20	13. D-mannose	+	+
	14. L-sorbose	-	+
	15. Rhamnos	-	+
	16. Dulcitol	-	-
	17. Inositol	-	+
25	18. Mannitol	+	+
	19. Sorbitol	+	+
	20. α -methyl-D-mannoside	+	+
	21. α -methyl-D-glucoside	-	+
	22. N-acetyl-glucosamine	+	+
30	23. Amygdalin	+	+
	24. Arbutin	+	+
	25. Esculin	+	+
	26. Salicin	+	+
	27. Cellobiose	+	+
35	28. Maltose	+	+
	29. Lactose	+	+
	30. Melibiose	+	-
	31. Saccharose	+	+
	32. Trehalose	+	+
40	33. Inulin	-	-
	34. Melezitose	+	+
	35. D-raffinose	-	-
	36. Amidon	-	-
	37. Glycogene	-	-
45	38. Zylitol	-	-
	39. β -gentiobiose	+	+
	40. D-turanose	+	+
	41. D-lyxose	-	+
	42. D-tagatose	-	+
50	43. D-fucose	-	-
	44. L-fucose	-	-
	45. D-arabitol	-	-
	46. L-arabitol	-	-
	47. Gluconate	+	+
55	48. 2-keto-gluconate	-	-
	49. 5-keto-gluconate	-	-

Phenotypically strain 299 can be identified as *Lactobacillus plantarum* (only raffinose deviated from the test pattern for *L. plantarum* ATCC 14917^T; this is the type strain for the species *L. plantarum*, that is the strain which defines the species). 271 can be identified as *Lactobacillus casei* subsp. *rhamnosus* (corresponds completely to the type strain for the species).

10 Genotype description

The two strains have been examined as to the cleavage pattern of the chromosome DNA in connection with cleavage with *EcoRI*, through restriction-endonuclease analysis - REA - (method according to Ståhl M, Molin G, Persson A, Ahrné S & Ståhl S, *International Journal of Systematic Bacteriology*, 40:189-193, 1990). Schematically REA can be described as follows:

- (1) Chromosome DNA is isolated from the strains involved in the study;
- 20 (2) The DNA is cleaved with restriction enzymes;
- (3) The cleaved DNA fragments are separated as to size by agarose gel electrophoresis;
- (4) The band patterns of the different strains are registered and interpreted by means of a laser densitometer and associated programs. The differences between the strains regarding the REA-pattern can be expressed mathematically by means of principal component analysis. 1990).
- 25

Furthermore an examination has been carried out referring to the contents of plasmids (method according to Ahrné S, Molin G & Ståhl S, *Systematic and Applied Microbiology* 11:320-325, 1989).

Strain 299: This strain contains four plasmids which are of the sizes of 4 MDal, 9 MDal, 20 MDal and 35 MDal, respectively. The cleavage pattern of the chromosomal DNA is shown in Figure 1. The lane marked with 299 shows the pattern of strain 299 and the lanes marked with a v represent a genetic variant of strain 299 from two different isolates; this variant was one of the 20 strains that were tested on humans

and has in Table 1 been denoted as A1; lane s denotes the standard, High M_w DNA Markers (AEH; BRL, Bethesda Research Laboratories, Life Technologies, Inc.). The variant of 299 can by means of common phenotype tests not be separated from
5 299. Also genetically 299 and 299v are very close. The variant has also proved to have the same ability to be established in human intestinal mucosa.

Strain 271: This strain contains two plasmids with a size of 3 MDal and 5 MDal, respectively. The cleavage pattern of
10 the chromosomal DNA of the strain is shown in Figure 2, as lane A; lane v shows a genetical variant of strain 271; and lane s denotes the same standard as in Figure 1. The variant of 271 can with common phenotype tests not be separated from 271. Also genetically 271 and 271v are very close. The
15 variant also has turned out to have the same ability to colonize the human intestinal mucosa as the sister strain.

Genetically the two examined strains differ essentially. They also differ significantly from the respective type strain.

20

Cultivation of Lactobacillus 299

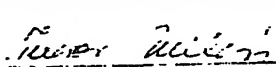
- An inoculate from a freezer of -80°C is added to 50 ml Lactobacillus Carrying Medium (LCM, Efthymiou & Hansen, J. Infect. Dis., 110:258-267, 1962) or Rogosa,
- 25 - is incubated for about 40 hours at 37°C ,
- 50 ml is inoculated into 500 ml LCM,
- is incubated about 40 hours at 37°C ,
- 500 ml is inoculated into 5 litres,
- is incubated about 25-30 hours at 37°C ,
- 30 - is centrifuged at 10 000 rpm for 10 minutes,
- is washed once in a physiological salt solution,
- the pellet is dissolved in about 1 litre of physiological salt solution.

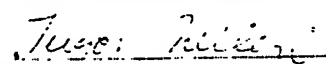
This amount is estimated to be sufficient for about
35 400-500 l of oatmeal gruel. Cultivation media are not optimized. Rogosa worked better than LCM, possibly due to a better buffer function. 2% glucose was added to LCM. The same procedure can be used for producing the other Lactobacillus strains.

Biological test on rat

Rats having a weight of 250-300 g were subjected to a standard operation to develop an abscess in the abdominal cavity by isolating and puncturing a part of the large intestine by which a constant leakage of intestinal contents out into the abdominal cavity was obtained which caused an abscess within 24 hours, sepsis and subsequent high rate of mortality. Three groups of 30 animals each were used. Group 1 was an untreated control group, Group 2 was treated with antibiotics, by injection, and Group 3 was supplied with lactobacilli in the form of a fermented oatmeal gruel to the stomach. The Lactobacillus strain which was used had been isolated from rat intestinal mucosa and in tests proved to be able to colonize and become established in rat intestines.

Evaluation of the test was made by analysis of the content of bacteria in the blood, something which is equivalent to sepsis, as well as cultures from the abdominal cavity and intestines. The result shows that all animals in Group 1 had bacteria in the blood, which should lead to a very high rate of mortality. In Groups 2 and 3 similar results were obtained with the occurrence of bacteria in 3 of 30 animals, however, to a much lesser extent than in Group 1.

MICROORGANISMS	
Optional Sheet in connection with the microorganism referred to on page <u>4</u> , line <u>37</u> of the description ¹	
A. IDENTIFICATION OF DEPOSIT ²	
Further deposits are identified on an additional sheet <input type="checkbox"/> ³	
Name of depositary institution ⁴	DSM Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH
Address of depositary institution (including postal code and country) ⁴	Mascheroder Weg 1B D-3300 BRAUNSCHWEIG Deutschland
Date of deposit ⁵	Accession Number ⁶
1991-07-02	DSM 6594
B. ADDITIONAL INDICATIONS ⁷ (leave blank if not applicable). This information is continued on a separate attached sheet <input type="checkbox"/>	
C. DESIGNATED STATES FOR WHICH INDICATIONS ARE MADE ⁸ (if the indications are not for all designated States)	
D. SEPARATE FURNISHING OF INDICATIONS ⁹ (leave blank if not applicable)	
The indications listed below will be submitted to the International Bureau later ⁹ (Specify the general nature of the indications e.g., "Accession Number of Deposit")	
E. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This sheet was received with the international application when filed (to be checked by the receiving Office)	
 _____ (Authorized Officer)	
<input type="checkbox"/> The date of receipt (from the applicant) by the International Bureau ¹⁰	
was _____ (Authorized Officer)	

MICROORGANISMS	
Optional Sheet in connection with the microorganism referred to on page <u>4</u> , line <u>36</u> of the description ¹	
A. IDENTIFICATION OF DEPOSIT ¹	
Further deposits are identified on an additional sheet <input type="checkbox"/> ²	
Name of depositary institution ⁴ <div style="text-align: center;">DSM Deutsche Sammlung von Mikroorganismen und Zellkulturen GmbH</div>	
Address of depositary institution (including postal code and country) ⁴ <div style="text-align: center;">Mascheroder Weg 1B D-3300 BRAUNSCHWEIG Deutschland</div>	
Date of deposit ⁵ <div style="text-align: center;">1991-07-02</div>	Accession Number ⁶ <div style="text-align: center;">DSM 6595</div>
B. ADDITIONAL INDICATIONS ¹ (leave blank if not applicable). This information is continued on a separate attached sheet <input type="checkbox"/>	
C. DESIGNATED STATES FOR WHICH INDICATIONS ARE MADE ¹ (if the indications are not for all designated States)	
D. SEPARATE FURNISHING OF INDICATIONS ¹ (leave blank if not applicable)	
The indications listed below will be submitted to the International Bureau later ⁹ (Specify the general nature of the indications e.g., "Accession Number of Deposit")	
E. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This sheet was received with the international application when filed (to be checked by the receiving Office)	
 (Authorized Officer)	
<input type="checkbox"/> The date of receipt (from the applicant) by the International Bureau ¹⁰	
was	_____ (Authorized Officer)

CLAIMS

1. A process for isolation of a strain of *Lactobacillus*
5 having the ability to colonize and become established on
human intestinal mucosa in vivo, characterized in that lacto-
bacilli are isolated from human intestinal mucosa and pure
cultured in a suitable nutrient medium and then selected as
to the ability to colonize and become established in the
10 intestines.

2. A process according to claim 1, characterized in that
the ability to colonize and become established is tested by
means of oral administration and verification of the occur-
rence on the intestinal mucosa 10 days after the completion
15 of the administration.

3. A process according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in
that a selection also is made by a valuation of the bile
resistance, pH-resistance, ability of fermenting oatmeal and
producing flavour.

20 4. A *Lactobacillus* strain having the ability of coloniz-
ing human intestinal mucosa in vivo, characterized in being
obtained according to any of claims 1 - 3.

5. A *Lactobacillus* strain having the ability of coloniz-
ing human intestinal mucosa in vivo, characterized in being
25 *Lactobacillus plantarum* 299 DSM 6595,
Lactobacillus casei ssp. *rhamnosus* 271 DSM 6594,
or a variant thereof having an essentially corresponding REA-
pattern.

6. A composition for the prophylaxis or treatment of
30 infections in the gastro-intestinal tract, characterized in
comprising a strain of *Lactobacillus* having the ability to
colonize and become established on human intestinal mucosa in
vivo, which has been obtained according to any of the claims
1 - 3, in combination with a conventional carrier.

35 7. A composition according to claim 6, characterized in
comprising any of the strains
Lactobacillus plantarum 299 DSM 6595,
Lactobacillus casei ssp. *rhamnosus* 271 DSM 6594,
or a variant thereof having an essentially corresponding REA-

pattern.

8. A composition according to claim 6 or 7 for oral, enteral or rectal administration, characterized in being an oatmeal based nutrient solution fermented by the Lacto-

5 bacillus strain.

9. Use of a nutrient composition fermented by a Lactobacillus strain according to claim 4 substituting antibiotics for the prophylaxis or treatment of bacterial infections in connection with surgical operations.

10 10. Use according to claim 9, characterized in that the strain is

Lactobacillus plantarum 299

DSM 6595,

Lactobacillus casei ssp. rhamnosus 271

DSM 6594,

or a variant thereof having an essentially corresponding REA-

15 pattern.

1/3

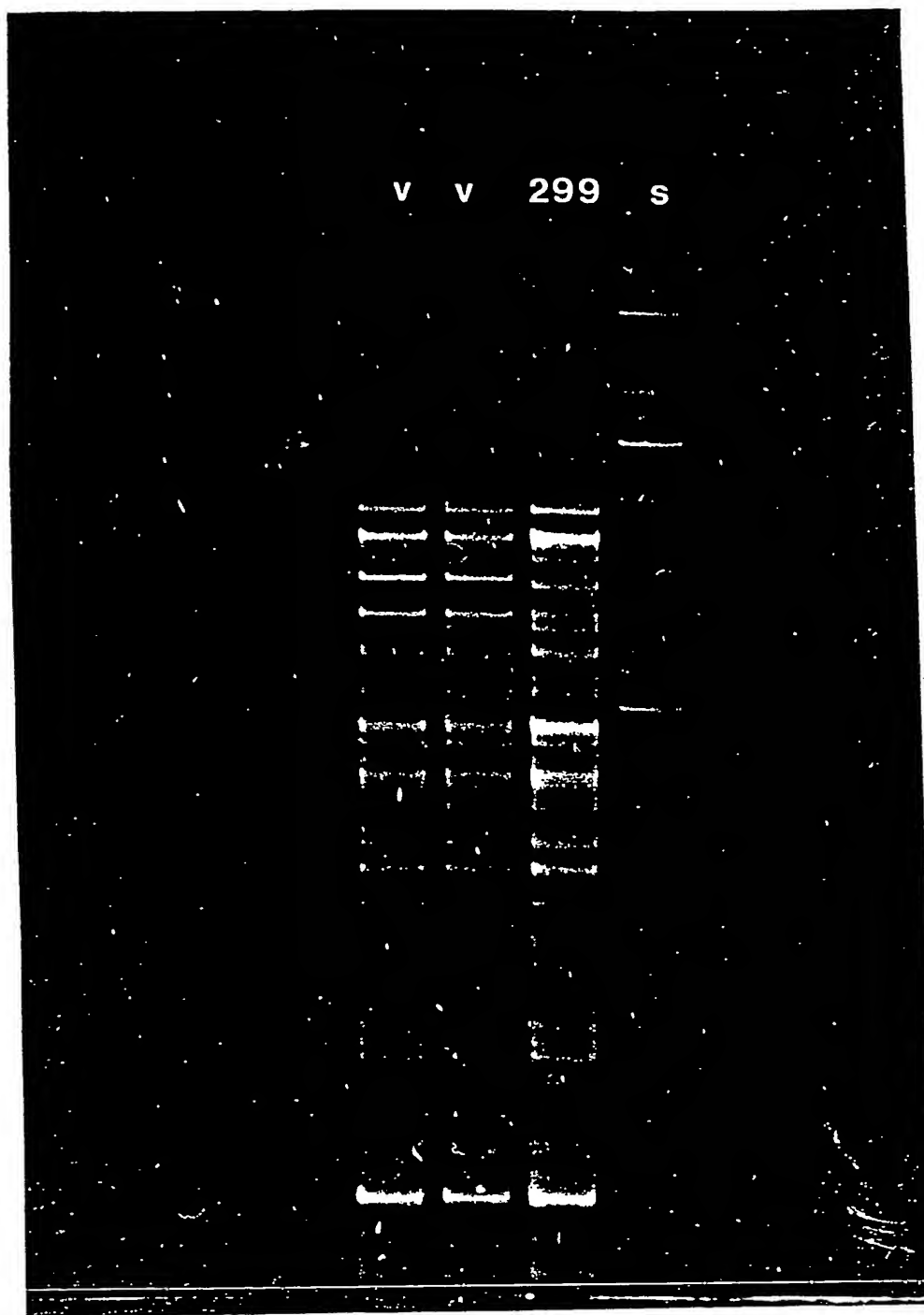


FIG. 1

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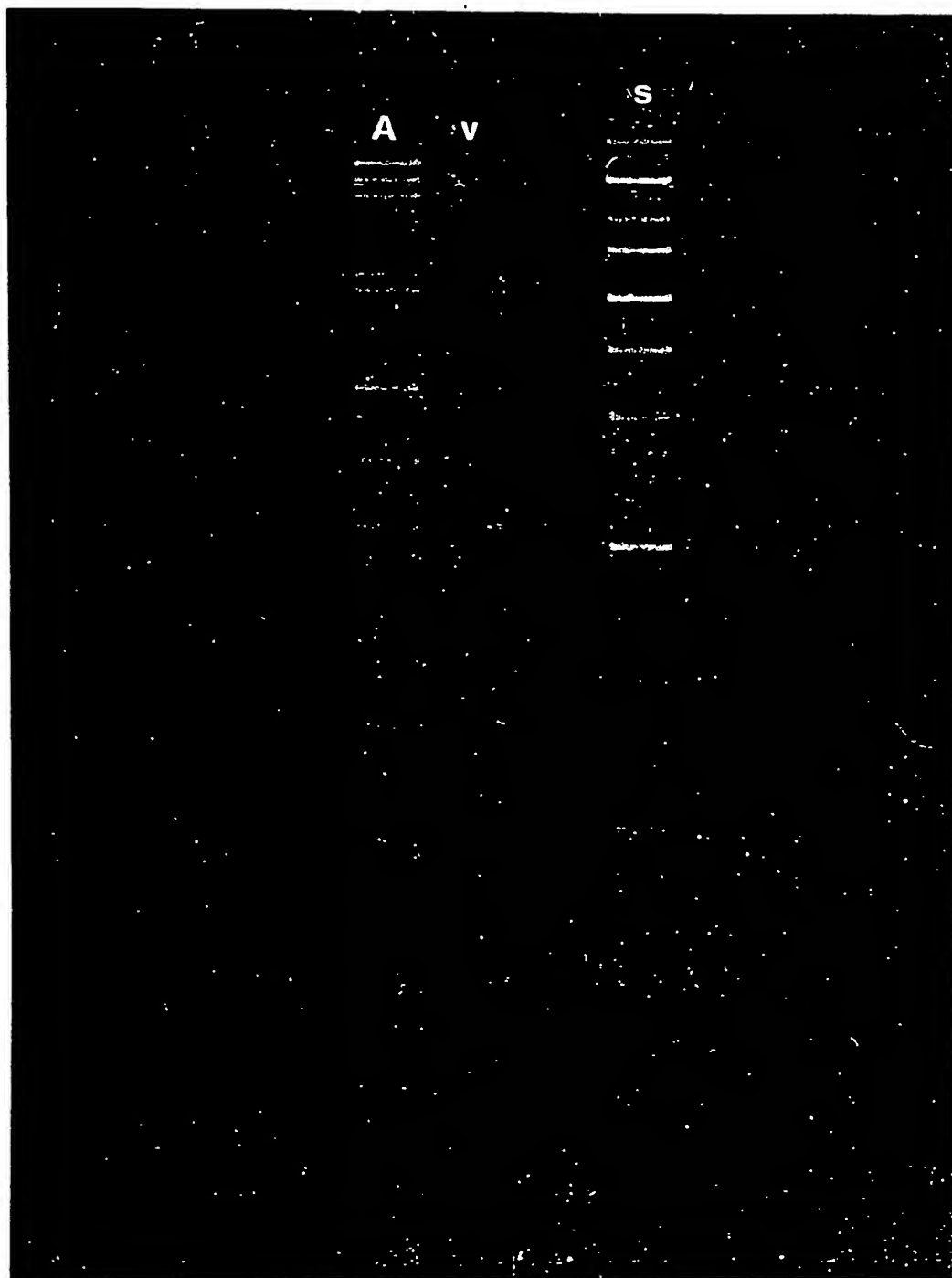
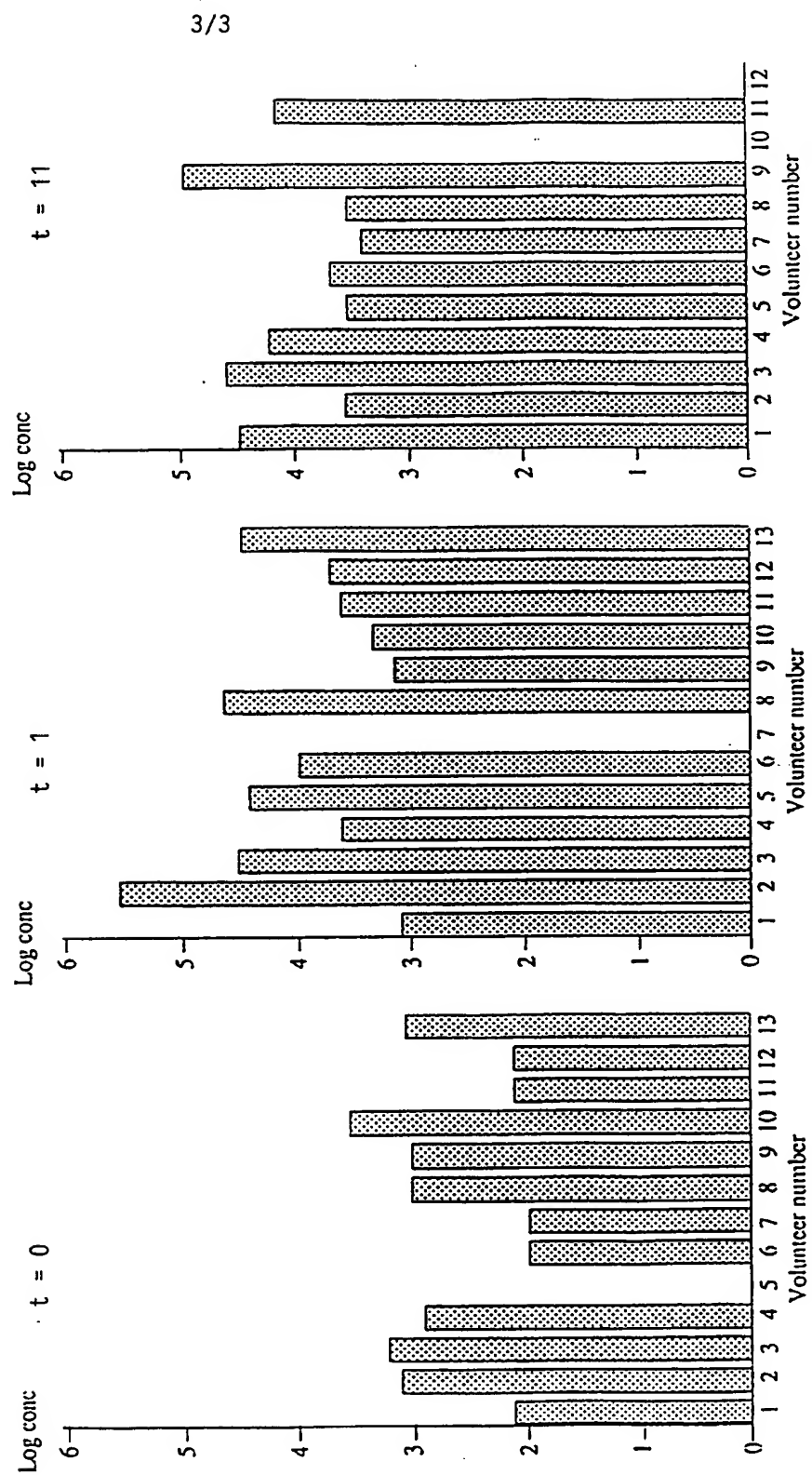


FIG. 2

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FIG. 3



INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No. PCT/SE 92/00528

I. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER (If several classification symbols apply, indicate all) ⁶ According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both National Classification and IPC IPC5: A 61 K 35/74, C 12 N 1/20																	
II. FIELDS SEARCHED <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Minimum Documentation Searched⁷</div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;">Classification System</th> <th style="width: 80%;">Classification Symbols</th> </tr> <tr> <td style="height: 40px; vertical-align: top;">IPC5</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">A 61 K</td> </tr> </table> <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 10px;">Documentation Searched other than Minimum Documentation to the Extent that such Documents are Included in Fields Searched⁸</div> <p style="margin-top: 10px;">SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above</p>			Classification System	Classification Symbols	IPC5	A 61 K											
Classification System	Classification Symbols																
IPC5	A 61 K																
III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT⁹ <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 10%;">Category *</th> <th style="width: 60%;">Citation of Document,¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages¹²</th> <th style="width: 30%;">Relevant to Claim No.¹³</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">X,Y</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">EP, A2, 0271364 (BIOREM C.C.) 15 June 1988, see page 3, line 28 - line 32; page 3, line 57 - line 65; page 4, line 22 - line 24 claims --</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">1-4,6</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Y</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">WO, A1, 9105850 (TARTUSKY GOSUDARSTVENNY UNIVERSITET) 2 May 1991, see the whole document --</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">1-4,6</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Y</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">WO, A1, 9105851 (TARTUSKY GOSUDARSTVENNY UNIVERSITET) 2 May 1991, see the whole document --</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">1-4,6</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Y</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, accession no. 04639496, Medline accession no. 82182496, Bongetta R et al: "The colonization of Streptococcus faecium in human intestinal tract after oral administration", & Boll Ist Sieroter Milan Nov 1981, 60 (5) p381-5 --</td> <td style="vertical-align: top;">1-4,6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category *	Citation of Document, ¹¹ with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages ¹²	Relevant to Claim No. ¹³	X,Y	EP, A2, 0271364 (BIOREM C.C.) 15 June 1988, see page 3, line 28 - line 32; page 3, line 57 - line 65; page 4, line 22 - line 24 claims --	1-4,6	Y	WO, A1, 9105850 (TARTUSKY GOSUDARSTVENNY UNIVERSITET) 2 May 1991, see the whole document --	1-4,6	Y	WO, A1, 9105851 (TARTUSKY GOSUDARSTVENNY UNIVERSITET) 2 May 1991, see the whole document --	1-4,6	Y	Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, accession no. 04639496, Medline accession no. 82182496, Bongetta R et al: "The colonization of Streptococcus faecium in human intestinal tract after oral administration", & Boll Ist Sieroter Milan Nov 1981, 60 (5) p381-5 --	1-4,6
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<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>* Special categories of cited documents: ¹⁰</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance, the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p> </div> </div>																	
IV. CERTIFICATION <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search 3rd November 1992 </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> Date of Mailing of this International Search Report 05 - 11 - 1992 </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> International Searching Authority SWEDISH PATENT OFFICE </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 5px;"> Signature of Authorized Officer Mikael G:son Bergstrand </td> </tr> </table>			Date of the Actual Completion of the International Search 3rd November 1992	Date of Mailing of this International Search Report 05 - 11 - 1992	International Searching Authority SWEDISH PATENT OFFICE	Signature of Authorized Officer Mikael G:son Bergstrand											
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III. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT (CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET)		
Category *	Citation of Document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to Claim No
Y	Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, Dialog accession no. 05441493, Medline accession no. 85057493, Justesen, T et al: "Normal cultivable microflora in upper jejunal fluid in children without gastrointestinal disorders", & J Pediatr Gastroenterol Nutr Nov 1984, 3 (5) p683-6 --	1
Y	Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, Dialog accession no. 05420589, Medline accession no. 85036589, Brillis VI et al: "Adhesive properties of lactobacilli isolated from the human gastrointestinal tract", & Nahrung 1984, 28 (6-7) p635-40 --	1
Y	Dialog Information Services, File 155, Medline, Dialog accession no. 05272203, Medline accession no. 84196203, Justesen T et al: "The normal cultivable microflora in upper jejunal fluid in healthy adults", & Scand J Gastroenterol Mar 1984, 19 (2) p279-82 -- -----	1

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM THE SECOND SHEET

V. ☒ OBSERVATIONS WHERE CERTAIN CLAIMS WERE FOUND UNSEARCHABLE¹

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2) (a) for the following reasons:

1. ☒ Claim numbers 9 and 10, because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

See PCT Rule 39.1 (iv): Methods for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery or therapy.

2. ☐ Claim numbers....., because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claim numbers....., because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of PCT Rule 6.4(a).

VI. ☐ OBSERVATIONS WHERE UNITY OF INVENTION IS LACKING²

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application as follows:

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims of the international application.
2. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims of the international application for which fees were paid, specifically claims:
3. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the the claims. It is covered by claim numbers:
4. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the International Searching Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

**ANNEX TO THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
ON INTERNATIONAL PATENT APPLICATION NO.PCT/SE 92/00528**

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The members are as contained in the Swedish Patent Office EDP file on 30/09/92. The Swedish Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP-A2- 0271364	88-06-15	AU-B- 624067 AU-D- 8240687	92-06-04 88-06-16
WO-A1- 9105850	91-05-02	FR-A- 2656798	91-07-12
WO-A1- 9105851	91-05-02	NONE	